**Civil War Template**

**Megan Phan**

**Letters/Journals/Diaries (15 points)**

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| Author: | Adam Wise Kersh |
| Date: | December 25, 1861 |
| Place of Origin: | Camp Tip Top, Pocohontas County, VA |
| An explanation of the subject/contents of the document: | Adam Kersh describes how the preparations for future battles with the Union troops; he also talks about the illnesses that have come up in the camp. |
| ***\*Analysis:*** | The thing that I found most interesting was that there were so many illnesses in the camps. I would think that there would be many doctors and nurses that would be there to assist the soldiers. I could determine that Adam Wise Kersh is a confederate because he states in the beginning that the Confederates are preparing for the next battle against the “yanks”. “…we will have a better chance at the yanks if they come now…” The dates in the letter show that it was sent in the beginning of the war, in December 25, 1861. I expected the soldiers to obviously have sicknesses, as most men had back then because of the trenches and mud. All of the unsanitary conditions eventually led to the sicknesses and even deaths of many of the Confederate soldiers. A question that I have is which sickness was the most common during the Civil War and what conditions led to the sickness? |
| Citation: | Kersh, Adam. "Valley Personal Papers." The Valley of the Shadow. N.p., n.d. Web. 22 Dec 2010. <http://valley.lib.virginia.edu/papers/A0338>. |

**Newspaper Articles (15 points)**

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| Author: |  |
| Date: | Thursday, October 9, 1862 |
| Title: | The Victory at Corinth |
| Place of Origin: | New York |
| Brief Summary: | It’s a summary about the struggle and battle of how the soldiers finally got a victory at Corinth and how the enemy suffered more losses than us. |
| ***\*Analysis:*** | Basically, this is the Second Battle at Corinth, and the Union won against the Confederates. This article was probably written by a person that was a part of the Union; this person was very biased and referred to the Confederates as rebels. Another part of the article explains the soldiers getting ready for the Confederate guerilla when they started hearing shots near Floyd’s Fork. During this battle, several lost their lives; however, it was mainly just the Confederates. |
| Citation: | "The Victory At Corinth." New-York Times 9 October 1862, No. 3446.Print. |

**Image (15 points)**

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| --- | --- |
| Author/Artist/Photographer | John Reekie |
| Date: | April 1865 |
| Title: | A Burial Party, Cold Harbor, Va. |
| A Copy (digital or hard copy) of the image | "The Blank Horror: War and Its Victims." *Gardner's Photographic Sketch Book of War*. Dover Publisher. Web. 21 Dec. 2010. <http://rmc.library.cornell.edu/7milVol/plate94.html>. |
| Analysis: | Its several soldiers having to bury their own comrades. |
| Description of the Image: | An African American soldier, sitting next to what appears to be a pile of bones on wooden platform. |
| ***\*Analysis:*** | In my opinion, the most surprising thing in the image was the skulls on the platform. It makes me realize just how many soldiers died in the Civil War because of the skulls. The harsh truth is that while many soldiers died in the war, numerous soldiers weren’t buried. This is because even though there were soldiers that were lucky enough to be alive, they were probably called away before they could bury their own comrades. The dominant features or elements of the image are definitely the skulls next to the African American sitting next to it. The skulls represent how horrible the Civil War was and how many died because of the fighting. A Civil War event that provides insight into the image is that while the battle of Cold Harbor was a place where the dead could not be buried, it wasn’t the only place; it also happened on the fields of the first Bull Run battle, where the soldiers tried to escape as fast as possible, consequently leaving a large number of dead bodies. |
| Citation: | Gardner,. Gardner's photographic sketch book of the Civil War. . New York: Dover Publisher, 1959. Print. |

**Song Lyric Template (15 points)**

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| --- | --- |
| Author: | Thomas Manahan |
| Date: | 1864 |
| Title: | Comrades, I Am Dying! |
| Place of Origin: |  |
| ***\*Analysis:*** | The whole message of the song is that even though the soldier in the song is about to die, he can see angels guarding him while he goes to “sleep”. Also, as the soldier is dying, he sees his mother who takes him into her arms and guides to him to heaven. “…Comrades, comrades, I am dying! For I see me mother now…”The emotion and feelings that are being portrayed in the beginning is sadness and it gives off forlornness. As the song goes on, however, the soldier becomes more reassured because he sees angels and his mother appearing before him in order to show him the way to heaven. What I was surprised about the song was that in the song, the soldier envisioned his mother coming to him to welcome him to heaven; I would expect this soldier to be young and his mother to be at home, waiting for him return to the family. Unfortunately, because of the Civil War, several soldiers had to go through similar experiences that the soldier in this song had to go through; about 620,000 perished in the Civil War. A question that I still have for the author of the song is why did have the soldier picture his mother, instead of someone else, like God. |
| Citation: | Tubb, Benjamin. "Comrades, I Am Dying!" The Music of the American Civil War. N.p., 22 October 2007. Web. 21 Dec 2010. <http://www.pdmusic.org/civilwar.html>. |